Viktor Ivanovich DANILOV-DANIL'YAN (Phonetic: dahNEEluff-dahneelYAHN)

Minister of Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources (since 1991); Member, State Duma (since December 1993)

Addressed as: Mr. Minister

Economist Viktor Danilov-Danil'yan's portfolio encompasses functions similar to those of the US Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, Coast Guard (enforcement of fishing regulations), and Forest Service, responsibilities that had been assigned to 11 separate agencies during the Soviet era. Since 1993 he has served as the Russian chairman of the environment committee of the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission. The Minister also sits on several broad-based presidential advisory bodies. Danilov-Danil'yan won a seat in the State Duma (lower house of parliament) in December 1993 as a candidate of the proreform Russia's Choice alliance (now Russia's Democratic Choice) headed by economist and former Acting Premier Yegor Gaydar.

In his capacity as Environment Minister, Danilov-Danil'yan has accrued international experience. He served in 1991 on a panel investigating a deal by a US company to develop the vast Tenghiz oilfields in northwest Kazakhstan. In early 1992 he headed a commission that awarded oil and gas exploration rights in the Okhotsk Sea near Sakhalin Island to Japanese and US companies. In May 1993, Danilov-Danil'yan was appointed Russian chairman of a bilateral Russian-Japanese commission on environmental conservation. In addition, he participates regularly in international ecology forums on topics ranging from Arctic studies to ozone depletion.

Career and Personal Data

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n the mid-1980s he participated in the Perestroyka Club in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), an informal proreform discussion group, and became involved in the Soviet green movement. Danilov-Danil'yan joined the Soviet Government in August 1991 as a deputy minister for nature use and environmental protection. He took over the Russian Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (the predecessor to the present Ministry) in November 1991. Danilov-Danil'yan is the author of more than 200 scientific articles.

30 November 1994

Mikhail Vladimirovich TOLKACHEV

(Phonetic: tolkahCHOFF)

Deputy Minister, Ministry for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources (since at least May 1993); Chairman, Commission for Mineral Reserves (since at least 1992)

Addressed as: Mr. Tolkachev

Mikhail Tolkachev is extensively involved in the work of the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission, serving on both its environment and science and technology committees.

He visited the United States in 1990 for an Interior Department sponsored program for experimental studies in silver mines and in October 1994 to participate in the arctic monitoring program.

5 December 1994

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